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# THE MUSEUM AND WEEKLY GAZETTE.

VOL. .

No. .

## PROSPECTUS.

“**I**S the present,” it may be asked, “a favourable moment to establish a new Periodical Publication—a Newspaper—a Magazine—an Essayist? Yes: decisively. The more enlightened every individual, the greater becomes his demand for general information. When trade is bustling men want to read for relaxation, and when there is little of business doing, then there is more leisure to read, and more incentives arise from frequent debate and conversation.

Among impartial persons, and among all persons in their impartial moments, a universal complaint is made, that even in publications which are professedly vehicles of information, conveyancers of news, *candid information* is hardly to be expected; *scientific intelligence* seldom at all; the entire of the current news is *not invariably to be found*; but the actual recent political facts themselves, are somehow only partly stated, and generally in such manner that on the one side and the other they appear to support the most contradictory premises. It is often exclaimed, “would not at least a weekly Newspaper, devoted strenuously to information; yet free from party detestations; not stooping to misrepresentations, suppression of facts, or the rancour of contention, be an object of desire in the community?” We now make our appeal to the public with the question, “Will it be sufficiently encouraged?”

WE announce a GAZETTE which shall comprise the full series of all the intelligence of each week and the latest news up to the day of publication. We will at the same time lay before our readers all the well written articles that appear in the Newspapers of both our great parties. We will take a pleasure in collating the most ingenious and forcible argumentative pieces, for the satisfaction of distant and future readers, who may thus have an opportunity to compare and admire all the wit and talent that is elicited in the course of controversy on either side.

THE chief merit of a work of the liberal and extensively useful plan we devise, rests *de auctoritate rei* on the impartial fidelity of its management and the extent of information it shall be found to convey. The *Hamurgh Correspondenten*, a mere journal of news, was sought after in every part of the world, yet its columns have been systematically printed off without a

single “editorial remark.” But that very observance constituted a chief point in its highly appreciated value. Men of all parties could read it and desired to read it. It was read universally. It gave the news and all the news and nothing else. Men of sense could draw their own deductions. All its readers having the facts before them were enabled to judge for themselves.

THE influence of literature is incontrovertibly great in forming the heart, the understanding and the manners of our young people, our rising co-temporaries and successors. Every man of benevolent patriotism, and every liberal parent cannot but look upon the improvement of our juniors as of weighty consequence in the scale of future happiness. The old and the young derive continual pleasure, improvement, honour and satisfaction from literature. The success and the benefit enjoyed by a whole nation and now shared by posterity from the weekly or semi-weekly publications of the *Spectator*, *Tatler*, *Guardian*, *Rambler*, *Idler*, *Observer* and other celebrated papers purely literary, have demonstrated the importance even of “leaves of literature.”

THE *Nordische Miscellen*, the *Bibliothèque Britannique*, and the *Annales des Arts et Manufactures*, are encouraged by numerous subscriptions in Europe through its utmost extent, and in situations the most remote from the places of their publication.

THE GAZETTE we would introduce to the enlightened public, is intended to be a gazette of attractive knowledge, that partly and advantage, introduce into their hands of their sons and daughters. In no abuse of private character, no sc epithet. Its columns shall not be sta The expanding mind, glowing with knowledge of the world in which it is act, shall be gratified to the amplest without being initiated and engulfed treds, that cloud unhappily the un sons of riper years, who, by their live happily together, doing justice



EVERY fact interesting to a Statesman, Jurisconsult, Naval or Military Officer, Trader, Geologist, Physician, Divine, and to the man who loves to be entertained with news, shall have impartially its place, in due order of publicity, without curtailment or distortion. It is the EDITOR'S determination to pay vigilant attention to all the remarkable events in nature, to all serviceable and curious discoveries, the improvements in science and mechanics, in all the useful arts, and in those which contribute to the *agrémens* of polished life. Farmers, Speculators in land, Merchants, Mariners, Artizans, who subscribe to this GAZETTE shall receive full and prompt notice of every occurrence interesting in their respective pursuits. Much of this kind of information has hitherto been confined to monthly publications, and works more expensive which seldom fall into the hands of a casual reader, but in fact, are rarely translated, noticed, imported, or reprinted for the use of the American public until several years after the useful information they contain has been known and practised in the rivalling countries of Italy, Holland, Germany, France, and England. These shall all be laid under contribution for the benefit of our patrons.

NOTICES of all works intended to be printed shall, for the interest of American literature, appear as regularly as sent to us by their authors or publishers. We will likewise give particular attention to the announcement of every work that issues from the press in America; and we solicit the attention of booksellers to this object. This department is alone sufficiently important to occupy separate publications in London, Paris, Lyons, Milan, Naples, Venice, and Leipsig. Its importance is encreasing yearly and rapidly with us.

In the miscellaneous department we will always be careful to present such a selection of anecdote, history, wit and morals, as shall be capable of gratifying the matured taste of persons of refinement and high intellect; at the same time that it shall be of a tendency to give youthful comprehensions, unfolding in that sweet season of life, when each agreeable sensation and conception makes an impression vivid and lasting, a predilection for the pursuits which are magnificent and elevating; which will imbue them with the love of liberty and freedom, and encourage them to aspire to virtue and abash the pride of the great, and their happiness in being respectful to their parents, and their citizens and neighbours, and worthy of their family. Sedulously shall we evince the power of the means of reason, science, and nature, to virtue and abash the pride of the great, the "guide by which the nobler part of every virtue—SWEET POETRY," shall be the guide. Every number shall contain a selection of original poetry, of a style suited to the occasion. We are promised the assistance of the most occasionally favoured with the pen, with pride, that the names of Addison, Brooke, Swift, Cumber-

land, and many others of celebrity, are ranked among those who have rendered services to their cotemporaries and posterity, by their labours as Editors of periodical papers.

Our chief gratification shall be to render our GAZETTE really and peculiarly valuable. We shall be anxious to render it worthy of being preserved and bound each year in the form of a book, as a well attested Record of all the interesting events of the time; a repository of purest morals; an entertaining *recueil* of the most agreeable literary varieties; a remembrancer of useful discoveries; a lucidly arranged book of reference; an attracting fund of improvement; in fine, an *Annual Register*, that shall prove to be an object of importance in the library of every man of science, every man of sense, and every fashionable, polite and sensible lady in the United States. We shall emulate the example and the success of Addison, Steele, and Johnson in the Spectator and the Rambler. We will not even shrink from daring by our exertions, after the example of the great Burke, to attract some of the characteristics of excellence, to the traces of our mind and pen, like those which have appeared in the diurnal and the annual publications, so vigorously alimented and raised to pre-eminence by his acknowledged, unrivalled genius.

The encouragement afforded to literature is ever admitted to be the truest test of the degree of a nation's, or a city's, civilization; of their public spirit, and their comparative excellence. It is an indication that never errs. With literature is inseparably transfused the good taste which gives encouragement to the fine and useful arts, to manufactures and commerce. Wherever literature is cultivated, rewarded and honored, we there invariably find buildings improved, furniture more convenient, abundant and sumptuous, the community better provided, the labours of the hero, the statesman, and patriot venerated, celebrated!—the exertions of genius in every department of activity fostered, every description of mechanics and industrious people more permanently employed, well treated, paid, and respected. The love of literature is at once a proof of the worth and the refinement of individuals and of families; from the princes and princesses of the blood in imperial governments and kingdoms to the not less honorable though happily less elevated consanguinities of meritorious individuals who in a republican land are emulous to contribute to the happiness and deserving distinction of their country. Who then is not interested to patronise literature? Can there exist a patriot with a mind not aware of the advantages of useful knowledge? The studies of Demosthenes raised the torch of furious war against the invader of his country's rights—the poetry of the modest Tyrtæus inspired a broken and dispirited army with the SOUL OF VICTORY, and the polished Virgil spread around the clear good sense of Agriculture in his charming verses, diffusing the most solid taste with the magic of the most beautiful fancy, and gave the best economical instructions in Italian rural affairs.



The republic the most celebrated for literature became the greatest by far, and paramount to all others in the communities of Greece. The glories of Athens live even to the present day, and the names of the great and good of the Grecian confederation are rendered immortal in the pages of their sublime writers. The city which most contributed to the encouragement of literature after the dark ages of Vandal intolerance, soon became thereby, and under the influence of her princely merchants, the queen of Italian cities: thus while time endures, the names of Florence and the Medici will survive together in the admiration of grateful posterity.

To pay occasional attention to successful lucubrations of the human mind, to recur often and frequently to the agreeable and diversifying pursuit, is highly advantageous to every person young or mature, that is placed in, has attained or aspires to the gentle rank. There is no young lady can boast that gracious designation without a taste for, and a handsome acquaintance with general letters. There is no merchant but has occasion for much knowledge and much facility if he will have his correspondence distinguished for excellence, for conciseness, precision, completeness, ease, rapidity, and exemption from all chance of mistake. In the present age, when the combinations and enterprises of trade exceed all former precedent, the greatest merchants are familiar with almost every department of literature. It is peculiarly beneficial to pay attention to elegant learning as a recreation. This can always be done in a method that will promote liveliness and never fatigue. In this lies the great advantage of a literary newspaper. There is no other mode can be imagined to attain so well this principal and important object; nor can any miscellany be compiled so perfectly serviceable as a well written periodical literary work of the nature we propose.

From a well conducted work of the plan we offer, more of solid, brilliant and useful information may be steadily acquired than in the whole course of time employed in the past juvenile pedagogy. Without inconvenience, without the pain of hard study and abstraction from the world, the defects of education itself may be repaired, and a few half hours of the days of manhood may make amends for the deficiency of years misled, wasted or neglected.

Among the causes which have retarded the establishment of a literary and scientific paper in our country, there is one more remarkable than all the rest, and which holds out for the success of this Gazette the most favourable auguries.—Our liberty. Our bold and sacred liberty. The assertion with respect to the *hitherto*, may appear paradoxical, like many other truths in the difficult science of Cosmonomy; but all observation confirms it, and history affords us the example of publications such as ours being first attempted, and attaining to the acmé of prosperity in free countries and cities that were republics in themselves. A fact on the other extreme supported by the testimony of all ages is, that

in proportion with the unrestricted extent of freedom, has ever been, and inferentially ever will be, the violence, nay the virulence of party. We have consequently parties, and not inferior in eagerness to any in the world. But there are many subjects interesting to a whole nation, and which have no direct connection with party affairs, nevertheless are grasped at, confounded or sacrificed to the predominant influence of party peculiar interests. We do not for our individual share make a question whether or not party ought to absorb every other consideration in the minds of persons who with the purest intentions follow that track to serve their country; but we are satisfied that every man of judgment will coincide in the opinion that “a Chronicle and brief Abstract of the Times,” which shall not be compromitted in the business of party, may be of efficient service in every other respect, and especially in the promotion of Agriculture, Manufactures, the various Arts, and the Sciences. It is certain that there is no newspaper of such a stamp at present in the United States. Indeed there is perhaps none which professes to be unconnected with the ends of party.

In the strife between papers that advocate or attack clientially, the great political divisions, all considerations minor to their main object, such as literature and the progress of useful science, are necessarily set aside; for, interesting as these subjects indubitably are with a view to a nation's weal and to individuals of all parties, they are truly unimportant to a party newspaper, nay though they are often more important in themselves and in the circumstances of the time than all the other subjects that at the moment engross the partys' attention.

We do not contemplate any thing in the nature of a literary and scientific publication adverse to the interests, or invidious to the merits of our compeer journalists. We in our plan forego the occasions and the attraction of invective, being contented with the liberty of quiet, without claiming the liberty to tease any one; and we calculate that persons who subscribe to their favourite party newspapers, who are gratified with the ingenuity of political animadversion and the heavy severity of recrimination, will be glad for the diversification of subjects, the cheerful laugh, the wider range of intelligence, the more varied approximations of instructive materials, and for rational mental recreation, to extend to us the encouragement of their patronage also.

As we do not propose making any comments on political occurrences, we shall have the more space for the insertion of the news itself, and we shall be very careful to omit nothing upon which any reliance can be placed. Our gazette will thus be a newspaper of the most strictly useful description to all ranks.

We have well founded expectations of making our GAZETTE pleasing and interesting to the enlightened inhabi-



tants of the city where we reside, and other cities in the union. It shall be not less interesting to the inhabitants of the desert and to the navigator also. Naval gentlemen and other persons whose duty or business leads them to quit for a time the world on land to encounter the perils of the ocean, will find that the *Weekly Gazette*, preserved with care, will be a valuable acquisition. It will be equally interesting to military men, wherever they move, and to persons whose residence is fixed in the country and in situations remote from "the hum and busy intercourse of men." It will be a well connected chain of important memoranda, a reminiscent series of all the remark-worthy occurrences of their own country and the rest of mankind, and will be found to contain notices of every fact and transaction interesting to a voyager, a man of the world and a patriot. To the sea-faring gentlemen particularly, it will prove an agreeable recollectional link, a bond of memory between the inhabitants of our floating castles and their country, which will the oftener call to their minds those images which are dear to every manly breast. It will keep alive conversation and generous thought while these valuable adventurous men are taking their short intervals of cessation from the dangers and fatigues they are exposed to, in raising the glory of our common country, increasing her wealth, and strengthening the bands of intercourse between us and other nations.

Being by the force of first impressions, predilection and attention, a practical agriculturist, the interests and improvements in Agriculture shall be pointedly noticed for the benefit of our rural subscribers and the general good of the land. Every improvement and facility in the construction of Roads, Bridges and Canals, those means which make mankind rich indeed, bringing as it were all the inhabitants of a vast country closer together, with reciprocated benefit, convenience, strength, and vastly more multiplying wealth, these shall form favourite topics as often as we shall find any thing new to offer. Every thing connected with improvements or facilities in the erection of useful and majestic public edifices, and in the construction of private buildings, more secure, more solid, more spacious, more beautiful, and better calculated to defend the health of the inhabitants against the severities of the opposing seasons, shall be brought forward in the *Weekly Gazette*, as soon as it is made known in any part of the civilized world. We will pay observant attention to the phenomena of nature, and to every communication on the subject, to Meteorology generally, and as a science applicable to the well being of man, to the alterations of climate, and to all the discovered means of obviating or counteracting each excess and vicissitude of weather. We will not despair of contributing on our own part to the rational means which God has undoubtedly left open to the research of man, to convert those supposed causes of baleful maladies into circumstances the most favourable to health, industry, and happy, safe enjoyments.

We are by inclination and habit friendly to the observation and study of the natural sciences. These are pursuits not merely harmless but benefactive; not trivial as they might seem to trivial observers, but grand, magnificent, patriotic, philanthropic, and *eventually profitable*. They abound with subjects so interesting and delightful, that, were we to rest our claim to patronage upon the charmingness of well developed and novel views of Natural History alone, we should not fear our *GAZETTE* becoming the peculiar favourite of the parlour, and the ladies boudoir. But we have also the discursive fields of metaphysics and ordinate literature to tread and here likewise we may be permitted to indulge ourselves with hopes of being useful. It shall be our pride to engage the approbation of the polite and learned. It is our determination that the language, and the choice and arrangement of subjects, shall render our *GAZETTE* uniformly and universally sought after, satisfactory and fit for the perusal of persons of sense, of ladies, scholars, and gentlemen.

For the information of persons residing in other towns and cities, and in places very distant from Baltimore, we have to observe, that the *Weekly Gazette* may be as conveniently obtained from this central situation, by every subscriber, as if it were printed in the very town or village nearest which they reside.

Some of the reasons that have determined the Editor to fix upon this city, in preference to any other, as the site of publication for a scientific and literary paper are: It is situated in the mid-line of our range of foreign communications; is as much distinguished as any other for commercial enterprise, and commands the greatest circle of internal interchange. Here, being in the center of the thoroughfare we can readily collect all the news at once from every part of the United States, all the intelligence by every arrival from Europe, and all the interesting publications from whose stores we are desirous to draw every thing novel or remarkable, that may be useful or please our subscribers. If we have not here any collections of books that comprise a million, nor are large enough to be compared with the great libraries of France and Italy, of London or the British or German privileged seats of learning, we are in a promising course of augmentation. This city is now truly taking a lead in the ascent of learning. The university founded here is actually placed in circumstances so singularly auspicious, as to bid fair under a continuance of the same liberal influence, to become soon the best and greatest on our continent.

We are not without hopes that we shall derive very agreeable assistance from lucubrations communicated to us by persons of fine literary taste, ladies as well as gentlemen in this metropolis. In the number of the personal acquaintances of the Editor here, and in other places, Philadelphia, New-York, &c. there are many, professional men of the first merit, from whom he is assured of receiving regular and permanent support.



He has provided for the attainment of many advantages, through a well concerted correspondence with literary men and men of science in Europe. Being fortunate enough to have a personal acquaintance with most of the Editors and Writers of the respectable publications in France, Germany, and other parts of continental Europe, and in the British Islands, he has some reason to expect, that when the great occurrences of the world shall afford him the opportunity, his patrons shall be enabled to discover, in his GAZETTE the reflected advantages at least of his literary friendships. He has long since made the requisite arrangements with some of the most distinguished booksellers in Paris, Naples, London, Hamburgh and the other literary emporia, with the intention here laid before the public. He trusts, that when a foreign correspondence shall become possible, his patrons will behold speedily sufficient proofs in his pages, to applaud the many previous steps he has taken to ensure a wide and liberal foundation for their approbation and the general benefit of the country. With such prospects before him, built on the basis of experience and preconcert, and with qualifications that are the result of an initial education, not the most ordinary, followed up by many years of travel, observation, and acquaintance with the world, it may not be presumptuous to hope, that this work, at a day not very distant, will establish in the gratified attention of its readers, that the Prospectus now held out is an honest pledge of a performance which will do honour to the Subscribers and the Editor.

We shall be happy to receive communications from every friend of knowledge and every person however humble or retired, that can contribute to the extension of the great national and reciprocal benefits, resulting from a steady observation of the works of nature, energetic study of the sciences, or the practice of the useful employments.

Our country contains its proportion of ingenious minds, who have not all had truly the same advantages of education, but all possess the power to be active and useful; and no fact is firmer constated than that every man can educate himself. Let us be the happy means of conveying the light of encouragement to more numerous instances of the force of this truth, and we shall be satisfied that we have done our duty to our country and our species. Not merely have we the examples of the Simsons, the Holcrofts, the Nashes, and the Bloomfields, but every meritorious man who has distanced his competitors in mental elevation has been self educated in all that in which he excelled. Such was the truth of Newton, of Tycho Brahe, Barry, Arkwright, Vaucanson, D'Alembert, Brinley, the two Bacons, the Czar Peter, Charlemagne, Alfred, Demosthenes, Archimedes, Aristoteles, Homer, Socrates. It is nature the diamond within and good activity alone that make the man of science, or the liberal unpedantic scholar. "Genius," has a man of genius said, "is nothing but a better aptitude to rapid labour." Nature has her Wits, her Heroes and her GENTLEMEN. This is the country may we hope in which proofs are to be multiplied upon the great scale. It will

not be interpreted into vanity by any generous mind when we offer to render every assistance in our power to each of our readers and correspondents who is desirous of making way to honorable distinction in the career of knowledge.—We speak in the humility of a heart that has yet its dignity, and can therefore allow and aid the merit of others wherever discovered. We will advance our assistance with deference, and we hope that our intentions will be estimated with good will. It shall be merely required on the part of our correspondents that they communicate their names and address, with the signatures they adopt, that they will distinguish what they know, have seen, and experienced, from what they have only learned by testimony, have heard of, or conjecture and, that they transmit their letters to the Editor *free of postage or expense* to him.

We shall be glad to call the attention of intelligent and observing persons to the subject of Meteorology. The changes of temperature in the air that surrounds us, have such important consequences ~~on the health of men and all the affairs of human life~~ that they are highly important to be observed will, exactly noted and understood. The means of obviating their various inconveniences may be one good result.—The indications which will serve satisfactorily to prognosticate their approach will be inappetibly beneficial. There is scarcely any violent or excessive transition in nature that is not announced by preceding warnings which are or may be noticed by some persons. The extreme vicissitudes from heat to cold, and from cold to heat, or "*the range of the Thermometer*" as it is termed, being on some particular days almost forty degrees, gives severe trials to most constitutions, and fatal shocks to many. The undecided character of the common indications of weather in the early Spring and about seeding time in Autumn, when so much of the abundance and quality of the future crop depends upon seizing the right opportunity, demands that the greatest exactness of observation be given to discriminate positive symptoms from delusions and ascertain the signs which can be depended on. The sudden alterations of atmospheric heat and cold would be less injurious could we foresee them timely, and were means observed that soften their attacks on the human constitution, that would save multitudes from lingering diseases and from death. We have ourselves paid some attention to these subjects, and we have the advantage of being in correspondence with gentlemen of discernment in the science. We are desirous to avail ourselves of every other alliance, and all ingenious investigations, or plain observations communicated to us will be well received. We would, to persons who live in the country, suggest the idea of keeping a *Vegetation Calendar*, an accurately noted *Calendarium Floræ*, with additional remarks on the appearance, changes, occupations, and disappearance of birds, insects, and reptiles. Agriculturists will observe in the Spring time, that the bloom and leafage of most trees are unfolded and insects and birds are acted on, not by an occasional warmth of the air, but by the amount of actually accumulated heat in the earth and atmosphere, and *vice versa* at the deciduence



of yearly vegetation. When the science of Meteorology shall be as well attended to, or understood, as its importance deserves, our farmers will have less trouble, fewer disappointments, and the horn of harvest will teem with more abundance. We do not despair that all the pleasures of an Italian summer will be combined in due succession in our favoured land, with the luxuries of the winter season as they are secured in the residence of the Russian emperor.

A very mistaken notion seems to deter our youth of both sexes, and persons of mature solid understanding from bestowing attention to the peculiar characters, and making observations on the various uses of the different trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses, mushroom-fungi, mosses, barks, flowers, leaves, roots, minerals, reptiles, and insects, that live, grow, and rise about them. They are discouraged by a prejudice arising from the perversion of distinguishing epithets and terms into hardsounding meaningless jargon, and imagine therefore that to learn or understand ~~Natural History~~ it is necessary to go to college and study in the midst of books. But they ought to be assured, that the best college is the ever varying and self-explaining collection of the wonderful works amidst which they live, and the best book the book of nature; beautiful in its immensity and minuteness, and which they will find is a book that deceives not. In the natural sciences, facts accurately observed must go before the projection of mens' theories. It is easy for man to conjecture and systematize, but it is only calm clear investigation, deliberate and watchful, proceeding step by step, and adhering to the clue of positive evidence, and nothing else, that can make us acquainted with a part of the transcendent system upon which the whole is regulated. We have more theorising conjectures than are useful, but we have not yet a sufficient collection of just observations and facts. The plain inhabitants of the country who have no theory in their fancies to contradict or prove, or that dazzles, or can warp their judgment, but have nature herself in her reality under their eyes, have it in their power to make a larger list of useful remarks than rich philosophers who spend their time in the decoration of cabinets. The yellow bark (quercitron) the Jesuits bark, the snake root, pink root, rhubarb, jalap, arnotto, manna, orchil, nutgalls, the tallow tree, the candleberry myrtle, cochineal, the silkworm, the preservative of the cowpock, the ores containing every metal, every mineral substance and valuable production, or benefit of nature, were first noticed on simple indications by inhabitants of country situations. Many observations yet remain to be made, that will redound to the honour and advantage of the persons who first give them to be made known among men of science.

How little is yet commonly known of the Natural History of that noble servant the horse! of his proper shoeing, his just organization and suitable medicine. How little progress has been made towards the amelioration of our native grapes, notwithstanding all grapes are known to have been austere

and comparatively juiceless until improved by cultivation—and how little has been done to acclimate the luscious vines of other territories. Shall we have any credit for telling our countrymen that intoxication is despised among the lowest of the community in the wine countries, that they need not the destructive but less cheering stimulus of *liquid fire*; and that a well cultivated vineyard is the richest plantation, where the best wine sells cheaper than our cider. The great Linnæus accomplished an essential service to his countrymen by suggesting the simple means which exterminated a species of worms that rendered wholly useless the timber intended for ship building. That great mind wished he could have explored the continent of North America. Let his glory which arose from the plainest scrutiny of nature's works animate the inhabitants of our free domains. Too many of nature's wonders are yet trodden under foot as despicable weeds and bugs, and caterpillars, and useless clay and stones which might render the observer of their properties celebrated in the annals of the world. The Chinese have several kinds of silkworms, and down, and barks that yield cloth fibres: we have also different kinds of *wild* silk worms, and some vegetable productions that may be better for many purposes than the common silk, or hemp, or flax, or cotton. All these demand remark and agerration or domestication. Our ferine musk bull yields a wool which makes stockings finer than silk.—We have introduced merinoes: we have yet to import the mohair goat, and the silk woolled sheep that supplies the beautiful shawls of Cashemire.

It will give us sincere pleasure to make our Gazette a medium of communication between the simple investigators of nature and the *savans* who speculate in the midst of books, apparatus, and costly *musea*. Aerials, minerals, insects, fishes, animals ferine and tame, and plants, all display evidences that contribute to our general improvement, and which if noted and remembered, will make any human being a good naturalist. They all furnish means for the protection, comfort and enjoyment of rational man, for the prolongation of human existence, for our food, our medicine, or our security.—New discoveries are made every day, curious, interesting and that may become productive of benefit. There is a wide scope for research still in our country. The reward is encouraging. It is noble. Many useful trees, and other plants, insects and substances which are found in our country, are yet unknown in books. There are several valuable kinds of grass, aboriginal natives of the soil, which are yet undescribed.—The most sequestered inhabitant of our hills and vallies may render distinguished services to himself and science, by communicating to us for publication the particulars of his observations, and positive knowledge of the works and productions of nature.

CAMILL. M. MANN, M. D.

13, Baltimore-street.

Baltimore, August 17, 1813.



## ORIGINAL POETRY.

### THE FIRE-FLY.

WITH the warm evening's wonted breeze,  
Midst th' already night gloomed trees,  
Brilliant drops of lucid fire,  
Sudden, slow, low, quick and higher,  
Say what are those sparkles that frolic-seem play,  
That vanish in points and swell bright in the ray?  
Are these the stars on earth that sport—  
Or do the gnome Fays here keep court?  
'Tis the fire-flies' lamps that illumine the grove,  
In the slumber of Spring, and the hours of Love.

It is not the stars here with zephyrs that stray,  
That dance in bright twinklings the term of May;  
That spangle with lightnings the wide meadow o'er,  
Light the magnolia swamp, and fire the wet moor.  
Not astrites are they, nor claim they the skies,  
But earth-born and humble, phosphorescent flies.

Lively, pretty, merry things,  
Living brilliants rest your wings,  
Beauteous creatures, pause to view—  
Eager, vainly, I pursue.  
Hid their light—it farther gleams,  
Like the light of fairy dreams!  
Yet abundant do they spark:  
Electric fancies of the dark,  
I no more the chace will try,  
Ye are coy, like Poetry.  
Shine unbidden—charm in flight—  
Mock the presumptuous fett'rer's might.  
Emerald sprinklings of the sky,  
Sparks ye are of Poetry.

Zig zag, up, and down, and round,  
Over, near, the swampy ground.  
The fire-fly lamp gay glides through the trees,  
Fanned by the breath of the evening breeze.  
Nightly and sightly,  
Sprightly and lightly—  
Swift shooting like stars and as sparkling their beams,  
By myriads and countless the fire-fly gleams!

Thickly they teem and brightly;  
Quickly they gleam—nightly!  
They float—dart, and turn—  
Now blaze!—ah! seem to burn!  
Meeting—parting—  
Fleeting—starting—  
Rapid they flit and gaily they move,  
Whirling an aery waltz of love.

'Tis the light of rejoicing that flames as they rise,  
'Tis the Cythereal zone round the amorous flies.  
'Tis a music of optics that fills every vale,  
Inviting Love's german the sweet Nightingale.  
Oh, why then, sweet bird dost thou tarry so long?  
We will joyful adopt thee! We will honor thy song!  
And here in this western world thou wilt find  
Groves and dells that are tranquil, and hearts that are  
kind.

And here though we bend not to Oberon's might,  
Nor to empress Mab, nor the spectres of night;  
Though no Gothic castle's high turrets and walls;  
Here the valorous dead to chilled fancy recalls;  
Nor ancient Cathedrals in solemnous gloom,  
Nor lofty Mausolea yet rise o'er man's tomb.—  
But Nature alone, o'er our mountains and vales,  
Indeed lessened in beauty by rude toil, prevails—  
Where the tulip trees loftily form sylvan towers,  
And the sweet shrubs exuberant meet in wild bowers.  
We will hearken attentive to thee plaintive bird,  
While thy loves and love's sorrows thou nightly record.  
Thy Cynthia here brightly shall silver the leaves,  
The stars will weep dew when their Philomel grieves—  
And the fire-flies more gaily will sport through the grove,  
In their diamond-blaze dance, to thy breathings above.

M.

### SELECTED.

.....retired leisure,  
That in trim gardens takes his pleasure;  
And the mute silence hith along,  
'nless Philomel will deign a song,  
In her sweet, saddest plight,  
Smoothing the rugged brow of night.  
While Cynthia checks her dragon yoke,  
Gently o'er th' accustomed oak.  
SWEET BIRD THAT SHUNN'ST THE NOISE OF FOLLY,  
MOST MUSICAL, MOST MELANCHOLY,  
Thee chauntress, oft the woods among,  
I woo to hear thy even song;  
And missing thee, I walk unseen,  
On the dry, smooth shaven green,  
To behold the wand'ring moon,  
Riding near her highest noon,  
Like one that had been led astray,  
Through the heavens' wide pathless way;  
And oft, as if her head she bowed,  
Stooping through a fleecy cloud.  
Oft on a plat of rising ground,  
I hear the far-off curfew sound,  
Over some wide, water'd shore,  
Swinging slow with sullen roar.

MILTON.



## CONDITIONS.

I. This GAZETTE shall be printed *once a week*, on good paper. The size will be quarto, and each number shall contain eight pages.

II. It shall be immediately delivered to Subscribers in the City and neighbourhood of publication, and punctually forwarded to each of its patrons in other places according to their direction.

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